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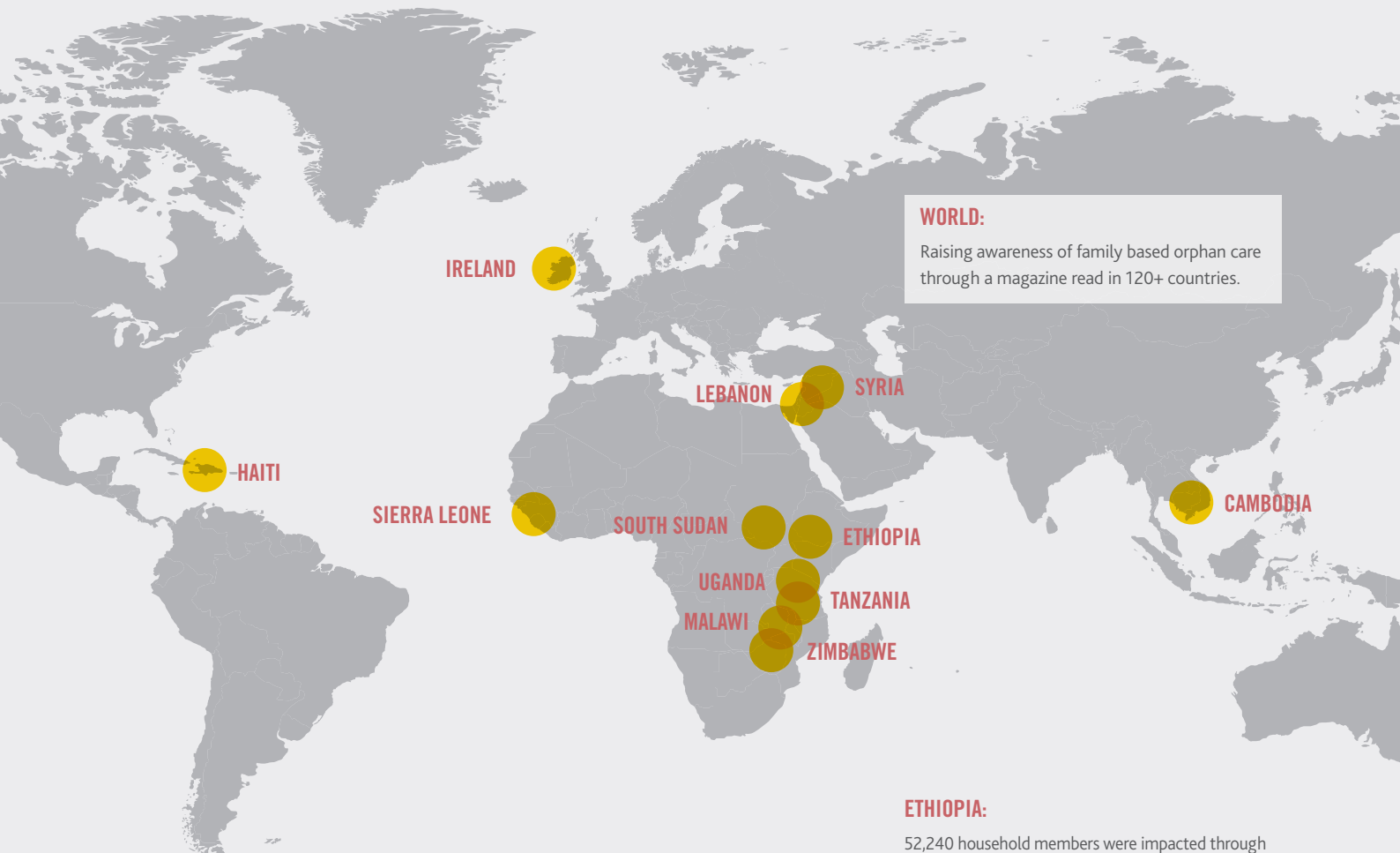
**TEARFUND IRELAND  
ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS  
2016–17**

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YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

**tearfund**  
Ireland

## WHERE WE WORK



**WORLD:**  
Raising awareness of family based orphan care through a magazine read in 120+ countries.

**HAITI:**

Following Hurricane Matthew, Tearfund Ireland staff were on the ground within the first two weeks to support the distribution of urgently needed food to 2,300 households as part of a joint response of Integral Alliance members.

**SIERRA LEONE:**

After the Ebola crisis left 12,000 orphans in Sierra Leone, our partner there trained caregivers in entrepreneurship to support orphans and psychosocial counselling to support pastors.

**MALAWI:**

Through the Self Help Group project women like Madalitso learned about savings, loans and community involvement. Madalitso took out a loan and started a registered nursery school, where she teaches 25 children. Madalitso is now able to provide for her own family's basic needs.

**TANZANIA:**

Following the envisioning of church leaders, a total of 80 new Self Help Groups and four new Cluster Level Associations were formed.

**LEBANON:**

Tearfund Ireland piloted its new strategic focus on education in emergencies and contributes to 'tent schools' for over 1,000 Syrian refugee children who otherwise be out of school.

**SYRIA:**

5,500 struggling families received food vouchers through local churches in the midst of the ongoing conflict.

**CAMBODIA:**

As the first organisation in Cambodia to pilot the asset based 'Togetherness' approach, to enable churches to use their own resources to meet the needs of their local community, this approach is now being promoted in the Asia Pacific region.

**ETHIOPIA:**

52,240 household members were impacted through the 10,528 members of 675 Self Help Groups.

**UGANDA:**

The Kasilo Rural Savings & Credit Cooperative Project enabled people living with HIV to improve their livelihoods by facilitating Savings and Credit Association (SACCO).

**ZIMBABWE:**

900 families have started to care for at least one orphaned or vulnerable child. These families are being supported by local church members.

**SOUTH SUDAN:**

In the midst of a protracted crisis churches were mobilised to start small scale projects to benefit their communities and to become less dependent on external aid. Through these projects; 74 people were able to extend their farms, 147 children were supported in secondary school, 17 street children were enrolled in primary school and 118 individuals benefited from an education and literacy programme.

## FOREWORD FROM THE BOARD CHAIR



Tearfund Ireland continued to deliver much needed projects on the ground in countries such as Ethiopia, Zimbabwe, Uganda, Cambodia, Jordan, Lebanon, Nepal and Yemen.

Tearfund Ireland was the lead partner on an International publication, *'Footsteps'* that highlighted the positive work of reintegrating orphans and vulnerable children from institutions back into families and communities – distributed to over 120+ countries world-wide including 20,000 direct recipients and translated into five languages.

Tearfund Ireland also hosted the Integral Alliance, an alliance of 23 International Christian Relief and Development Agencies of which Tearfund Ireland is a member. The General Assembly of 80 delegates with wide ranging experience in working across the world met in Dublin representing 14 countries from as far afield as Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the United States. Our Strategic Plan, 'United Against Poverty, Together for Transformation' was launched during their visit by Joe McHugh TD, the then minister with responsibility for Overseas Development.

While the financial results this year are not as positive as previous years, we ended the year with a surplus of €17,204, bringing our general reserves up. Our total income this year was considerably less than previous years. This is due to the timing of receipt of institutional grants, an unsuccessful bid to the Irish Government for a much higher level grant for our development work and no new emergency responses undertaken. We are at the same time thankful and encouraged that there was an increase in giving by individuals ranging from 4.5% in regular giving to 38% in once-off giving.

In terms of overall spending as a proportion of our income, as our income overall is down this year, our proportion of spend on projects is also down. As grant income was considerably less it resulted in fewer new projects being supported than in previous years. Our organisational costs this year were 23% of income (cost of generating funds 21% and governance costs 2%). We anticipate a more positive picture in the next financial year as we were delighted in the recent weeks to have been informed by Irish Aid that we have been approved a grant of €525,000 to continue our Self Help Group project in Ethiopia for the next three years.

I would like to thank all our supporters, donors, volunteers, staff team and my fellow Directors for having the vision and ambition to reach more people across this hurting world. I particularly thank and acknowledge all of our partners and most especially our local church partners both in the countries we work in and here in Ireland.

Finally, I encourage us to continue to see the big vision we hold as something that can be achieved with God's help. That Tearfund Ireland can continue to seek to be a catalyst in helping communities and people lift themselves out of poverty and suffering and flourish as God intended them to, with the help of the local church in Ireland and overseas.

Dr David Weakliam  
Chairperson  
23rd June 2017

David has worked in international and global health since 1988, including 12 years working with Tearfund and other development agencies in Nepal, Liberia, Sudan and Democratic Republic of Congo. Following his return to Ireland he worked as health adviser with Irish Aid, the government overseas aid programme, from 2003 to 2007. David is now a Consultant in Public Health Medicine in the Health Service Executive (HSE) and works as Programme Lead for the HSE Global Health Programme.

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# FOREWORD FROM OUR CEO

## Introduction from the Chief Executive Officer



Photo Mark Maxwell

Welcome to Tearfund Ireland's Annual Report for the year April 2016 to March 2017. This year we have chosen some specific highlights from our work across different approaches such as our response to the Refugee crisis in the Middle East; the Self Help Group project in Ethiopia; Church and Community Mobilisation Process in South Sudan; Alternative Care in Cambodia and Zimbabwe and other interesting innovations.

The need across the world is stark despite all the progress that has been made in recent years. The number of vulnerable people displaced or living as refugees remains at the alarming rate of over 65 million, of whom approximately 11.5 million are children. The scandal of poverty and injustice leaves poor people living in extremely difficult circumstances facing hunger, child-trafficking, no education and little hope for their futures. However, with the support of our faithful supporters and donors Tearfund Ireland continued to see a positive impact in the lives of the poorest people as you will read in this years' report.

During the year Tearfund Ireland had the opportunity to apply to the Irish Government for a higher level programme that would have provided us with even greater resources to reach even more people in dire circumstances. This process engaged all of the staff team and our partners in months of hard work. This was an ambitious step that we felt ready for and we put our best efforts towards achieving it. It would have released even greater opportunity to over 200,000 people had we been successful. We came very close but unfortunately we fell a small percentage short on this occasion. The opportunity will arise again and we will be even better prepared as we take the learning from the process forward in the organisation. That said, we are delighted to have been approved a grant by Irish Aid of €525,000 to our Self Help Group project in Ethiopia for three years.

One of our strategic objectives is to envision, equip and mobilise the churches in Ireland to respond to justice issues which are close to God's heart and captured throughout scripture. We seek to encourage the church in Ireland and overseas by working together in reaching out to the poorest and most vulnerable. Highlights for Tearfund Ireland is our growing partnerships in all areas of our work overseas, development education with youth leaders and raising awareness of issues of poverty and injustice overseas and here in Ireland – connecting us as global citizens and neighbours. Another strategic objective is to advocate with and on behalf of the most vulnerable through our advocacy work. This year we were one of the key voices in representing the interests of vulnerable children and their rights to quality education while suffering because of war and conflict.

We as a staff team are constantly thankful to our faithful and wide ranging support from individuals, churches, businesses, trusts and the Irish Government. It has been the busiest of years for the staff team whose level of conviction and commitment to our work is second to none. We have big dreams to keep doing what we can to come alongside poor communities as they seek to lift themselves out of poverty and as we encourage the church in Ireland and overseas to be 'salt and light'.

Thank you to all our supporters, volunteers and Board of Directors as you continue to be part of the work we do, where miracles can happen and people and communities are transformed.

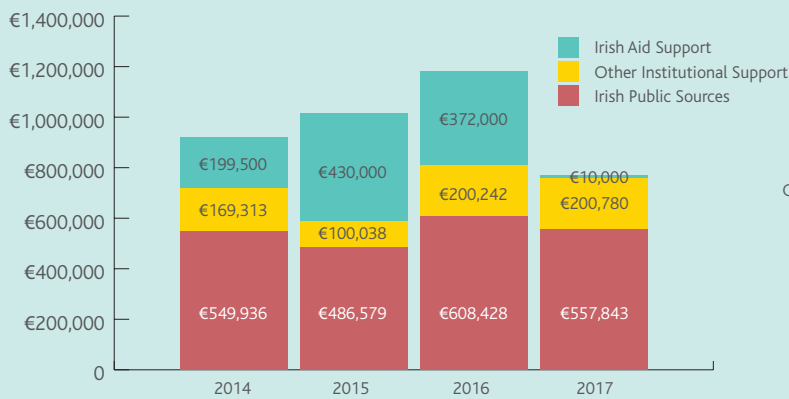
Thank you!

Sharan Kelly  
Chief Executive Officer

# OUR TRANSFORMATIONAL WORK 2016 – 2017

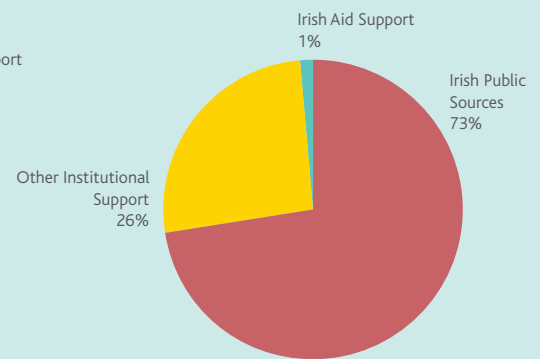
## INCOME GROWTH

Year Ended 31 March 2017 vs previous years



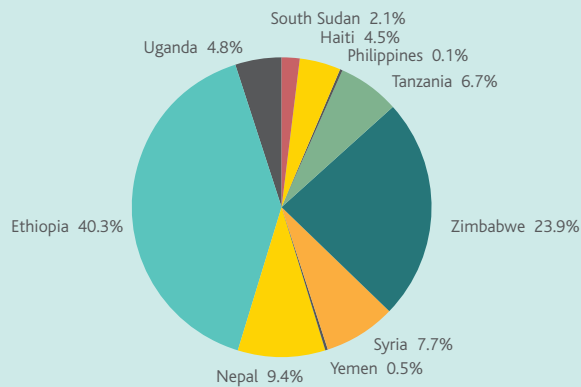
## SOURCES OF INCOME

Year Ended 31 March 2017



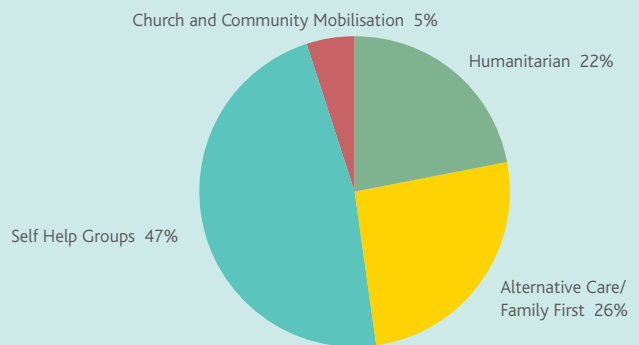
## EXPENDITURE BY COUNTRY

Year Ended 31 March 2017



## EXPENDITURE BY ISSUE

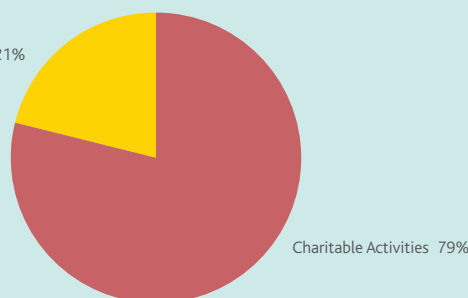
Year Ended 31 March 2017



## HOW THE MONEY IS SPENT

Year Ended 31 March 2017

CGF/Admin/Gov 21%



# INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES

## ETHIOPIA

### Self Help Groups (SHGs)

**Number of direct beneficiaries:** 52, 240 people (through 675 SHGs, 10,528 members)

Ethiopia has experienced drought for the second year in a row with 10.2 million people requiring food aid according to UNHCR in March 2016, alongside a growing number of refugees and tensions in traditionally nomadic areas where resource conflicts spiralled. Anecdotal evidence suggests that members of the Self Help Groups supported by Tearfund Ireland are affected by the drought, yet not as severely as those who are not members of Self Help Groups. As a result of their joint savings in the groups, they have access to capital that enables them to mitigate shocks better.

We are encouraged that the Government of Ethiopia recognised Self Help Groups as a viable poverty reduction strategy: They have been included into Ethiopia's inclusive development strategy; The Growth and Transformation Plan II.

The capacity to scale Self Help Groups to reach chronically food insecure households remained a key outcome of the project. The Self Help Group approach starts with the local church. In partnership with the Ethiopian Guenet Church Development and Welfare organization (EGC/DWO), the Wolaita Kale Heywet Church Terepeza Development Association (WKHC-TDA) and Tearfund Horn of Africa, a total of 115 local churches were envisioned and mobilised to actively address the needs of the poor and organise democratic Self Help Groups. This contributed to the establishment of 675 groups with members from poor and food insecure households. These households can directly benefit from savings and loans, peer support, as well as access to knowledge through training in how to start profitable income generation businesses. Training delivered on resilience and disaster risk reduction contributed to the expansion of small businesses and the planting of drought tolerant food crops in previously food insecure households.

Among the businesses created by Self Help Group members, about 80% revolved around trading and retailing of food or agricultural commodities. In Wolaita, more than 4,350 group members were enabled to develop and diversify their livelihood alternatives in addition to crop or livestock production.

Most of the members are women working in their own household and gardens, who previously depended solely on their husbands for the money they needed.

#### Key Outcomes:

- 115 local churches were envisioned to be more relevant in their community by supporting and initiating Self Help Groups
- 52,240 household members were impacted through the 10,528 members of 675 Self Help Groups and 36 established Cluster Level Associations
- Self Help Group members jointly mobilised €70,200 as savings from their own resources
- 71% of women in Self Help Groups engaged in some form of income generation activity, so that 97% of these businesses diversified income streams. This led to an 87.8% increase in income among group members and enabling 99.1% of member's households to provide for their basic needs.



Photos Gavin Leane/Tearfund Ireland.

"SHGs have renewed our hope. We have seen the SHG model working 'tested its flavour' and there is no way that we could go back to the situation we were before. We are able to feed our children better, buy school uniforms, school materials and cover healthcare costs. On personal level, we did not know each other by name before the SHG but we do now, we share our concerns together and work together as one true community."

SHG member of Bereket SHG, Gununo Village 03, Wolaita, Ethiopia

*We would like to sincerely thank Tearfund New Zealand and the Church of Ireland's Bishops' Appeal for their support towards the programme.*



## MIDDLE EAST: SYRIA, LEBANON

### Humanitarian Response and Education in Emergencies

**Number of direct beneficiaries:** 9,500 beneficiaries in Lebanon, 27,500 in Syria  
(Total: 37,000 for Middle East)

Syria has entered into its seventh year of conflict. Over 13 million Syrians are still in need of humanitarian assistance and the situation is getting worse. Families are struggling to meet their basic needs and in Syria, a one week ration of food supplies is now eight times more expensive than before the protracted crisis began. In Lebanon, 53% of refugees are children with more than half of them out of school and child labour is increasing.

Tearfund Ireland continues to support Syrian and Lebanese churches towards providing food and non-food relief items to families in need. These have been selected based on need, making use of the local churches intrinsic knowledge of their communities. While partnering with LSESD Merath directly, the joint relief efforts are well coordinated among the various member of the Integral Alliance though.

This year, Tearfund Ireland has increased its direct focus on children and education in emergencies, through informal 'tent schools.' We hear stories of children who not only spoke of the many things they have learned in a safe environment, but also of the friends they have made in a new location, as well as behaviour changes affecting the whole family: "I used to behave badly at home and now I don't – I used to beat my sisters but now I don't" (7 year old boy, Lebanon).

#### Key Outcomes:

- Contributed to over 5,550 families in Syria receiving monthly food vouchers.
- Contributed to over 1,900 refugee households in Lebanon receiving monthly food vouchers.
- Contributed to over 1,000 refugee children in Lebanon, who would otherwise be out of school, attending informal education centres with educators who have been trained in child inclusion.

"During my recent visit it was very encouraging to witness how our projects enable churches in Lebanon to be relevant and to provide relief to refugees from Syria, particularly when keeping in mind that Syria used to occupy Lebanon and Syrians were hated by the Lebanese."

Markus Köker, International Programmes Manager Tearfund Ireland

*We appreciate the generous support of the Church of Ireland's Bishops' Appeal towards this programme.*







**HELPED OVER  
1,000 REFUGEE  
CHILDREN IN  
LEBANON ATTEND  
EDUCATION  
CENTRES**

📷 Pastor Marcel of Middle East Revive & Thrive (MERATH) is Tearfund Ireland's partner in Lebanon. His work with refugees includes distributing food and other essentials including medical supplies and winter kits, and helping Syrian children access education. Photos: Helen Manson

## SOUTH SUDAN

### Church and Community Mobilisation Process (CCMP)

#### Individual beneficiaries:

- 74 individuals were able to extend their farms
- 74 households supported 147 of their children in secondary school
- 25 street children were supported with 17 enrolled in primary school
- 360 people participated in HIV interventions
- 118 people benefited from basic education and literacy
- 38 people participated in environmental sustainability and disaster risk reduction measures

In response to the outbreak of conflict in South Sudan in December 2013 Tearfund Ireland supported more than 1,200 families in 2014/15 and trained local churches in church and community mobilisation. The country continued to suffer the effects of insecurity and a countrywide food crisis. The country also suffered a sudden economic downturn as a result of inflation which was recorded at 680% in September 2016. The price of most goods especially food items have increased tenfold. The major challenge faced by poor communities is severe hunger which has been exacerbated by the economic crisis.

#### Summary of the intervention

Tearfund Ireland identified the essential need to increase the role and capacity of churches and communities to address the needs of those most poor and vulnerable. It continued to support churches in Aweil East County, situated along the main border and trade route with Sudan. There has been a long history of dependence on humanitarian aid in Aweil East with a culture of hopelessness and feeling powerless. The Church and Community Mobilisation Process envisions and equips churches to mobilise and enable local churches and communities to work together to address needs while encouraging cross-denomination networking and relationship building.



Photo: Angelika Agun and her family in Northern Bahr el Ghazal in South Sudan received food vouchers as part of Tearfund Ireland's emergency food relief programme, supported by Irish Aid. Photo: Markus Köker/Tearfund Ireland.



The Church and Community Mobilisation Process is designed to alleviate poverty in a sustainable way through training, identifying and releasing locally available resources and through working better together. Different denominations, communities, local leaders and government officials are working better together to achieve common goals and a peaceful co-existence in order to transform their futures positively.

Interfaith churches incorporate equality, fairness and equity into their church teaching. As a result of this, income generating associations for women and young people have formed. Issues such as the inclusion of people with disabilities and building resilience to disasters now holds greater priority in these communities.

### Key Outcomes

- 36 Locally trained facilitators with knowledge and skills are long term assets to the church community for ongoing training provision and assisting them to capitalise on local available resources
- 1500 Church members trained in the importance of self sustainability
- 21 Local churches envisioned for Integral Mission and providing practical service to their community
- 15 Local churches engaged in activities to reduce the spread and impact of HIV and AIDs
- 21 Local churches assisted vulnerable people to prepare for emergencies and disasters
- 300 Households reached in advocacy for equality of women and girls
- 16 Primary schools were sensitized on environmental conservation

### Transformation of local population

CCMP has been embraced positively by the local communities and churches in Aweil East since its introduction. Communities have been made aware of the potential of resources, such as unused land. One beneficiary said "This is my first time for me to cultivate a bigger farm like this, it yielded enough sorghum and I sold some sacks of sorghum to be able to meet other ends like school fees and medical bills for myself and my children."

## 1500 CHURCH MEMBERS TRAINED BY FACILITATORS

## 21 LOCAL CHURCHES ASSISTED VULNERABLE PEOPLE



## CAMBODIA

### Family First and Alternative Care

**Number of direct beneficiaries:** 372 overall

A key aspect of Tearfund Ireland's work is taking a 'family first' approach. We believe that children should be able to grow up in the care and love of their families. Unfortunately due to poverty and marginalisation, many families feel forced to place their children in institutional care as they believe it will afford their children a better chance at life. This is not the case however, and growing up in an institution results in life long physical and psychological harm for children. This can include cognitive and development delays, attachment disorders, as well as a lack of the social and life skills that are required for children to become healthy functioning members of society. It also leaves them vulnerable to violence, abuse, neglect and trafficking.

In Cambodia there was a 75% increase in the number of orphanages established between 2005 and 2010. The majority of these orphanages are run by private, non-governmental often faith based organisations. Alongside the Cambodian government Tearfund Ireland partners have been working hard to reintegrate children out of orphanages and institutions and back into their families. 80% of children living in orphanages have at least one living parent.

The Social Work Support component of this project cooperated with sub-national and local authorities to conduct family tracing, planning, assessment and reunification of children leaving residential care centres (RCC). It provides alternative care options in the community, provides life skills training, health care, sanitation materials and counselling support through emergency foster care and assigned social workers. 35 children leaving care were placed in 6 emergency foster care families. 19 care leavers were reintegrated back into their biological families. Food, daily necessities and clothes were distributed to children and their families, as part of the reintegration package, in order to support the reunification process and to practically support families.

This project also focused on supporting church and community based care of reintegrated children. Efforts were made to establish relationship and rapport with key stakeholders and gate keepers within local church settings and then link them to another partner; Alongsiders International. Alongsiders facilitated churches to select suitable members who received training in the Alongsider curriculum and child protection. Becoming an Alongsider enabled church members to support and walk alongside the reintegrated children from orphanages, as if they were an older brother or sister. This ensures extra community based support for children reintegrating back into their families and communities. Ongoing, long term support within the community is vital to children leaving RCC.

A third aspect of this project focused on supporting young adults living in RCC through youth clubs. The Youth Support Sector supported young adults who were due to leave RCC through providing trainings to help increase their confidence and enable them to live in a community independently and safely, while developing emotional awareness and the ability to pursue a life plan for when they leave residential care. Children and young people leaving RCC are an extremely high risk and vulnerable group and preparation is vital to their well-being for life after institutional care.



**IN CAMBODIA  
THERE WAS A  
75% INCREASE  
IN THE NUMBER  
OF ORPHANAGES  
ESTABLISHED  
BETWEEN 2005  
AND 2010**



### Key Outcomes:

- Overall 372 lives have been impacted by this project.
- 35 children leaving RCC (care leavers) were placed into 6 carefully selected and trained emergency/temporary foster families
- Family tracing, assessment and planning for reintegration was conducted for 35 care leavers-19 reintegrated into biological families and 16 referred to other NGO partners due to safety concerns
- 4 trainings on child protection provided to 79 Christian church members – Selected churches have become community based support structures for reintegrated children
- 5 church members from 4 churches became Alongsiders for 5 reintegrated children
- 152 youth club members benefited from the Youth Support Sector of the project and at least 60% of these have developed a life plan, developing the skills and confidence they need for when the time comes to live within a community.

## ZIMBABWE ORPHANS THROUGH EXTENDED HANDS (ZOE)

### Case Study: Community Based Orphan Care

by Denford Munemo and Qobolwakhe Khumalo

#### HELPING ORPHAN FAMILIES THRIVE IN ZIMBABWE

Zimbabwe is home to an estimated 720,000 orphans, partly as a result of deaths from AIDS-related illnesses. Traditionally, the extended family would care for orphans. However, the difficult economic and social conditions in the country have left relatives struggling to cope. Tearfund Ireland's partner ZOE (Zimbabwe Orphans through Extended Hands) believes local churches have a vital role to play.

Mobilising churches is at the heart of ZOE's work. Often churches have a desire to care for orphans, but do not know how to help. This is where our partner ZOE steps in.

The strength of the ministry is in churches working together. When a church leader approaches ZOE for help with caring for orphans. First the pastor is asked to gather all the church leaders in the area. These church leaders are envisioned about the biblical message to care for orphans. The leaders go back to their churches and share the vision. They ask those in their congregations who have a heart for orphans to become volunteers.

ZOE then trains church volunteers to visit and support orphan families (families who are caring for orphans). Each volunteer is responsible for visiting four or five orphan families regularly (fewer if any of the families are child-headed households, as these need more support).

#### FAMILY STRENGTHENING

Church volunteers are trained in parenting skills, budgeting, child protection, psychosocial support, child development, and sexual and reproductive health. They pass on this training and knowledge to the families they support.

Churches and community members are also encouraged to speak up for orphans through advocacy. They protect orphan families' inheritance rights and help orphans get birth certificates, which they need for accessing other services.

Building supportive relationships is central to the volunteers' role. As part of their training, they are encouraged to use their God-given resources to support orphan families.

Our partner also helps orphans and caregivers in livelihoods support. They provide them with small livestock (eg. goats, chickens or rabbits) and train family members in animal management. They also train orphan families to grow crops and offer vocational training to orphans in a trade of their choice, setting them up for a more secure future.

*Written by Denford Munemo is National Director of ZOE, and Qobolwakhe Khumalo is ZOE's Programmes Manager.*

#### BRINGING DEAD LIVES TO LIFE

*Pastor Bob Chimboo from south-east Zimbabwe shares his experience of working with ZOE.*

With ZOE's help, between 2003 and 2016 we envisioned 135 churches in Masvingo to care for orphans. A lot of lives that seemed dead have been 'raised to life'. Churches have found many different ways to meet the needs of orphans and widows. These include paying school fees and teaching skills in hairdressing, motor mechanics and sewing. Some of these orphans now have jobs and can provide for their families. We are training orphan families in gardening, candle making, goat breeding and peanut butter making. We have also been advocating against child marriage and all forms of child abuse.

The model has helped us as pastors from different churches to be united for the cause of orphans. We meet once every month to discuss the issues volunteers from our churches come across during their visits. We are now a relevant church in our communities.

*The article first appeared in Footsteps issue 101 on "Caring for Orphans"*



Orphans and child headed households have been helped through partner ZOE (Zimbabwe Orphans through Extended hands). Photo: Eleanor Bental/Tearfund

## WORLDWIDE

**Number of direct beneficiaries:** 20,000+ readership

Worldwide, there are an estimated 150 million orphans, including 17.6 million children who have lost both parents. In addition there are 8+ million children living in residential care institutions, and even more on the streets as street children. This group can be considered social orphans, as they grow up without any meaningful attachment to family members, even though parents, or other family members may be alive. With the best intention, and the hope for a better education, parents have also sent their children to grow up in orphanages. There is a lack of awareness and understanding among stakeholders that growing up in these institutions can be harmful and may include a delay in the mental development, exposure to traffickers and paedophiles, or attachment disorder. Studies have shown that despite educational gains, young adults coming out of institutions are highly vulnerable and at risk of being exploited.

Tearfund Ireland sees local Faith Based non-governmental organisations and the church as strategically positioned in mobilising the community to meet the most critical care needs of orphans. Both command respect from all sections of the community and they are increasingly recognised in various community gatherings. When the church and local organisations are fully strengthened it has a unique opportunity to champion a successful church community based orphan care program.

With the goal of strengthening the church across the developing world to manage successful church community based orphan programmes, Tearfund Ireland, in issue 101 of the *Footsteps* magazine, highlighted community based orphan care and featured many of Tearfund Ireland's partners, as well as a lead article by Tearfund Ireland's International Programmes Manager. Since 1989, *Footsteps* magazine has shared information, ideas, contacts and experience in a Christian context at grassroots level. It encourages the practical outworking of integral mission in all aspects of local development work. A readership survey conducted by *Footsteps* in 2012/2013 showed that, *Footsteps* is used extensively in formal and informal training settings and 80% of people use their copies for training. The magazine which is read in 120 countries, published in English and translated into French, Spanish, Portuguese, Hindi, Nepali, Bangla and Burmese as well as several local languages, has a wide reach and an estimate readership of 20,000.

### Key Outcomes:

- 20,000 readership of people will receive copies of *Footsteps*
- Communities in 120 countries will know about the importance and impact of community mobilisation for the protection of orphans and vulnerable children.
- An extensive number of Faith based Organisations and churches in 120 countries will be exposed to the impact and potential for church community based orphan care



Photo: Hannah Maule-finch/Tearfund.

**THERE ARE AN ESTIMATED 150 MILLION ORPHANS, INCLUDING 17.6 MILLION CHILDREN WHO HAVE LOST BOTH PARENTS**



In developing countries, poverty is often the reason families place children in orphanages.

Illustration from *Footsteps* 101

## ADVOCACY

This year Tearfund Ireland put greater effort in progressing our advocacy strategy. Our Strategic Plan 2015-2020, 'United against poverty, together for transformation' sets out the parameters in which we work. Advocacy, as a strategic goal calls us to 'Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy' (Proverbs 31:8-9). This is the basis of our advocacy work and we have taken great strides in this area this year.

Advocacy by its nature is a long term process. In 2014, in conjunction with our 'No child taken' campaign we joined the *Turn of the Red Light* campaign. This is an alliance of over 70 organisations who came together to lobby the government to bring in laws that would criminalise the buyers of sex in Ireland. We supported this campaign as we see the inextricable links between prostitution, human trafficking and poverty. The majority of people involved in prostitution have come from impoverished backgrounds and have either been coerced, forced or trafficked into the sex trade. Ireland is a destination, transit and source country for human trafficking. After many years of campaigning by many different organisations, including ourselves, the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences) Act 2017 was enacted in February this year.

We believe this legislation will go a long way to curb the demand for prostitution and human trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation. We celebrate this success and the role both ourselves and our supporters played in it by using our voices and collaborative power to call on the government to enact vital legislation that will ultimately protect the vulnerable people trapped in prostitution.

Tearfund Ireland has a **specific focus and heart for vulnerable children**; children caught in conflict, affected by disasters, children living in poverty and as a result suffering from malnutrition and hunger, unable to receive an education. Alongside our advocacy work at a national level we also chair the EU-CORD<sup>1</sup> Child Rights Working Group. As part of this group we came together to discuss the dire situation of children caught up in war and conflict and forced to flee their homes. We are specifically concerned with access to quality education for these 'children on the move'. We worked together to write the position paper 'Leaving no one behind in education – empowering children on the move'. This paper was developed to influence the new European Consensus on Development which was drafted this year. This Consensus will be the blue print for the European Union's development policy going forward and is therefore of

vital importance to the work we do on the ground and to the lives of the people we serve. We specifically highlighted the plight of children on the move as they are at risk of becoming a 'lost generation'. *'Overall, a refugee child is five times more likely to be out of school than a non-refugee child.'* (UNICEF, 2017.) Education provides children on the move with safety and security and helps to protect them from child trafficking, early marriage, gang recruitment and child labour. This was an extremely important piece of work for the Child Right's group and with Tearfund Ireland's specific focus on children and the strategic focus on piloting education in conflict situations. It was another important example of how we need to work at both grass roots levels in our programmes overseas but also advocate at the highest levels to ensure that structural change also takes place.

At Tearfund Ireland we believe that changing the structural causes of poverty and marginalisation is vital to ensuring people are able to lift themselves out of poverty. Both the legislation we campaigned for here in Ireland and the work we do at an EU level ensures that people are afforded the best chance to change their circumstances and are protected by the laws and structures that govern them.

<sup>1</sup> A network of 23 Christian Relief and Development Agencies from across Europe.





## EQUIPPING CHURCHES ACROSS IRELAND

### Speaking at Churches and Youth Groups

Tearfund Ireland speakers were welcomed by churches and groups across Ireland to speak about our partners' work to transform the lives of the most vulnerable across the developing world.

### Development Education

During the year we partnered with the Church of Ireland Youth Department in an Irish Aid funded Development Education project to train youth leaders to integrate global justice themes into their ongoing youth work. As part of the project we enjoyed a visit by Ephraim Tsegay from Tearfund Ethiopia who gave important insights into the complex nature of poverty and the success of the Self Help Group model in tackling poverty in Ethiopia. Tearfund Ireland has been successful in accessing a further grant for Development Education with youth leaders in 2017-18.

Development Education workshops were also facilitated by the Tearfund Ireland team at schools, conferences and youth events.

### Church Conferences and Events

Tearfund Ireland had a presence at a number of church conferences throughout the year, including the Inside Out Conferences – Barrow Valley Community Church, the AGI Dream Conference – Enfield Co Meath, the Plumblin Leaders Conference – Athlone, the Aontas Conference – Abbeyleix, the Building Blocks Conference – St Andrews College, an IMAP event – Grosvenor Road Baptist Church and Church of Ireland Synods – Kilmore, Elphin and Ardagh, Cork, Cloyne and Ross, Dublin and Glendalough, Meath and Kildare, Cashel, Ferns and Ossory, and Tuam, Killala and Achonry as well as a combined presence with members of AMS at the Church of Ireland General Synod in Dublin. Also a great family day out was had at the World Africa Day held at Farmleigh in the Phoenix Park Dublin.

### Visitor from Ethiopia

A highlight of the year was the visit by Ephraim Tsegay from Tearfund Ethiopia as part of the Irish Aid funded Development Education programme. Ephraim, an experienced facilitator has been working with Self Help Groups in Ethiopia which have seen more than one million people lifted out of poverty in that country since 2002.

During his visit Ephraim also spoke at the Tearfund Ireland AGM, at churches and groups around the country and facilitated sessions at both the Assemblies of God Ireland Senior Advanced Leadership Training (SALT) and the Irish Bible Institute (IBI). In a reciprocal visit Ephraim was able to visit Stranolar in Co Donegal where the community had done lots of fundraising for Self Help Group work in advance of the visit by members of the community to Ethiopia in October.

### Women's Mini Marathon

Almost 50 women from Open Arms Church in Newbridge took part in the Dublin Women's Mini Marathon on Bank Holiday Monday in June to raise funds for their Connected Church project in Haiti which gives educational opportunities to children who are living as domestic slaves.

### Walks of Hope

Supporters from the Dublin and Wicklow area participated in the annual fundraising Walk of Hope in October. Over 40 people took part in the Bray Head walk which included child friendly activities to explore life for children in developing countries.

### Tearfund Christmas Craft Fair

Churches and supporters in the Cork area worked all year, once again making beautiful crafts and homemade Christmas gifts for the Christmas Mini Market raising funds for Tearfund Ireland's work with the most vulnerable.

### Tearfund Lunches

Churches in Cork, Dublin, Limerick and other parts of the country held lunches to raise funds for Tearfund.

### On the Airwaves and in the media

Tearfund Ireland partner Dandin Espina of Philippines Children's Ministry Network (PCMN) who worked in child protection in the aftermath of Typhoon Haiyan in 2013 spoke at the annual World Day of Prayer service broadcast on RTÉ radio and television. The theme of the service written by the women of the Philippines was 'Receive Children, Receive Me'. Spirit Radio broadcast a fortnightly Tearfund interview reaching an estimated 165,000 listeners. Interviews were also conducted for Midlands 103.8 and Life FM and regular Tearfund Ireland updates featured in Vox magazine.

### Connected Churches

Churches in Ireland continue to develop relationships with churches in Cambodia, Ethiopia Haiti and Malawi through our Connected Church programme.

### Travelling Overseas with Tearfund Ireland

During the year we were particularly encouraged by a visit by a group from Stranolar in Co Donegal to see our Self Help Group work in Ethiopia and a group of volunteer youth leaders from the Church of Ireland (CIYD) visited Cambodia.

## Tearfund Ireland

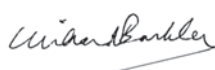
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)  
for the year ended 31 March 2017

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2017 €	Restricted Funds 2017 €	Total 2017 €	Total 2016 €
Incoming Resources					
<b>Generated funds:</b>					
<b>Voluntary Income</b>					
Grants		6,249	217,686	223,935	569,412
Donations		544,452	–	544,452	600,312
<b>Investment Income</b>	5	236	–	236	946
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<b>550,937</b>	<b>217,686</b>	<b>768,623</b>	1,170,670
Resources Expended					
Cost of generating funds		114,838	45,376	160,214	154,577
<b>Net Incoming Resources available for charitable application</b>		<b>436,099</b>	<b>172,310</b>	<b>608,409</b>	1,016,093
<b>Resources Expended on Charitable Activities</b>					
Costs incurred in Ireland		253,616	123,734	377,350	359,340
Remittances to overseas programmes		104,940	108,915	213,855	633,482
		418,895	172,310	592,231	992,822
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>	6	<b>533,733</b>	<b>217,686</b>	<b>751,419</b>	1,147,399
<b>Surplus/(deficit) for the year</b>		<b>17,204</b>	–	<b>17,204</b>	23,271
<b>Net movement in funds for the year</b>		<b>17,204</b>	–	<b>17,204</b>	23,271
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Balances brought forward at 1 April 2016		58,412	–	58,412	35,141
<b>Balances carried forward at 31 March 2017</b>		<b>75,616</b>	–	<b>75,616</b>	58,412

Approved by the Directors on 26th June 2017 and signed on its behalf by



Richard Barkley (Treasurer)  
Director



David Weakliam (Chair)  
Director

## Tearfund Ireland

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

# BALANCE SHEET

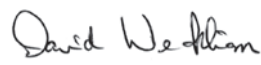
as at 31 March 2017

	Notes	2017 €	2016 €
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible assets	10	2,471	2,423
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors	11	10,862	4,985
Cash and cash equivalents		364,105	404,319
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	12	(301,822)	(353,315)
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		73,145	55,989
<b>Total Assets less Current Liabilities</b>		75,616	58,412
<b>Funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds		75,616	58,412
<b>Total funds</b>	15	75,616	58,412

Approved by the Directors on 26th June 2017 and signed on its behalf by



Richard Barkley (Treasurer)  
Director



David Weakliam (Chair)  
Director

## WORKING TOGETHER TO TRANSFORM LIVES

The challenges faced in the world today must be faced together and as the new United Nations Transformative Agenda 2030 highlights, we should 'leave no one behind'. All should prosper and all have a part to play in achieving this.

Once again, through working together with individuals and churches in Ireland and in the communities we work in overseas, with donors, trusts, the Government and volunteers we are part of a movement of people who are lifting themselves out of poverty. We are responding together to the most vulnerable people as they suffer due to the extremes of poverty, injustice, natural disasters and conflict.

We appreciate every single person, volunteer, church, family and community, donor and the Irish Government for their continued generosity of spirit, time, money and efforts to work with us this year. Despite Ireland being officially out of recession, its affects are still felt across many homes and communities in Ireland. Even so, as many people continue to struggle to get back on their feet,

support not only remained unwavering, it increased in some areas during the year. We are truly humbled and blessed by the conviction and commitment to working together to bring about lasting transformation. Without this valuable support we would certainly not have achieved all that has been achieved in the past year. We extend a heartfelt thanks to you all!

We are eternally grateful to all our volunteers and thank you for your support, commitment, skills, creativity, fundraising efforts and so much more. We thank all the church leaders who facilitate us in sharing our work across the country and coming together as 'one body' to show the love of God to our neighbours living in some of the poorest parts of the world. Thank you to our volunteers, church representatives, leaders and supporters, you all know who you are – thank you for continuing to inform your church community across the country of the work we are doing together and highlighting the issues facing the most vulnerable in some of the world's poorest countries.

The results outlined in this report demonstrate the extent of transformation that has been achieved this year. Tearfund Ireland and our partners implement measures to provide both quantitative and qualitative information on the impact of our work. We have developed rigorous selection procedures and closely monitor the progress of projects with regular field visits conducted.

Criteria we use to evaluate our projects are:

**Impact:** What changes have occurred in people's lives? Have the underlying causes of the problem been dealt with?

**Effectiveness:** Have the objectives of the project been achieved?

**Efficiency:** Were the resources used as wisely as possible?

**Sustainability:** Will the impact last beyond the span of this project?

**Relevance:** Did the project address the most critical needs of the people?

## FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE

Tearfund Ireland's total income this year was considerably less than previous years. This is due to the timing of receipt of Institutional grants, an unsuccessful bid to the Irish Government for a much higher level grant to our development work and no new emergency responses undertaken. We are at the same time thankful and encouraged that there was an increase in giving by individuals ranging from 4.5% in regular giving to 38% in once-off giving.

Our income came primarily from our supporters, churches in the Republic of Ireland and Institutional funding. Positive relationships and partnerships exist with trusts and foundations in Ireland, and grant-making organisations including the Church of Ireland Bishop's Appeal, peer INGOs, Trusts and others. We were unsuccessful in our bid to Irish Aid for its Programme Partner funding which would have had potential to more than double our grant income. However, in recent

weeks we were approved a three year grant for the next financial year which provides us with much needed funds to continue our work in Ethiopia. As a registered charity, we were able to reclaim €86,980 back in tax during the year.

Tearfund Ireland uses its finances effectively and maintains low organisational costs to ensure help reaches those in greatest need. This is made possible through the support of enthusiastic volunteers who raise funds, pray, work in our office and share our vision with others. The Board of Directors is committed to ensuring organisational costs remain within acceptable levels while also investing in the continued development of the organisation.

### Professional Standards

We believe in maintaining the highest standard of professionalism throughout our work. We've signed up to a range of internationally recognised standards – because they enshrine our principles and our respect for the people we support.

Tearfund Ireland is a signatory to the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and NGOs in Disaster Relief. This means that our 'aid is given regardless of the race, creed or nationality of the recipients and without adverse distinction of any kind. Aid priorities are calculated on the basis of need alone.'

We are committed to the high technical quality of our projects, working towards the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS).



Red Cross Code of Conduct

We are members of Dóchas, an umbrella body of Irish development charities and signatories to the Code of Conduct on Images and Messages.



Tearfund Ireland is fully compliant with the Statement of Guiding Principles for Fundraising, which is monitored by the Irish Charities Tax Reform Group (ICTR) and set out best practice guidelines for Charities who fundraise in the public environment.

The Board of Directors adopted the ICTR Statement of Guiding Principles for Fundraising and are in compliance with the Statement.

## PROFESSIONAL NETWORKS

Tearfund Ireland is part of a number of different networks both at a national, EU and global level. Our CEO was elected to a second term as the chair of the Board of Dóchas, the association of Irish Non-Governmental Development Organisations. We are also part of several different working groups as part of our involvement with Dóchas including a Policy working group, a Development Education working group, Results working group and the Humanitarian Aid working group. We are also part of the Quality and Impact working group for Development Education with IDEA (Irish Development Education Association) and on the Volunteering in Orphanages working group with Comhlámh, the umbrella organisation for volunteer sending agencies.

On the European and global levels we are a member of EU-CORD, a network of 23 European Christian Relief and Development NGOs that work alongside over 1000 implementing partners worldwide. We are also a member of Integral Alliance; Integral is a global

alliance of 23 Christian relief and development agencies, working together to present a more effective response to poverty worldwide and specifically cooperate in humanitarian responses. Integral Members work in 90 countries, across 40 sectors, and have a network of over 740 local partners.

Our membership of Integral Alliance provides us with quick access to partners all over the world specifically in response to humanitarian disasters and is an opportunity to be part of joint Christian humanitarian responses. Our membership of EU-CORD provides us with access and the ability to lobby at the highest levels of the European Union for the needs of the most poor and marginalised in our world and cooperate in development projects while benefiting from shared learning and innovation.

In all of these networks Tearfund Ireland is a respected and valued member and we have shown our influence and impact at many levels. Our CEO is the Vice Chair of

the EU-CORD Administrative Council and our Communications Executive is the Chair of the EU-CORD Child Rights Working Group. In October 2016 we hosted the General Assembly of Integral Alliance, welcoming approximately 80 delegates from all 23 members. We also took this opportunity to launch our Strategic Plan 2015-2020 United against Poverty, Together for Transformation. The Strategic Plan was launched by Joe Mc Hugh TD, the then minister with responsibility for Overseas Development, who highlighted that although Ireland may be a small nation we are impactful and we have influence on the global stage, a message that resonated with Tearfund Ireland especially. We are a small organisation but we have God sized dreams for this world and seeing the most poor and marginalised lifted out of poverty.



We are members of Dóchas, an umbrella body of Irish development charities and signatories to the Code of Conduct on Images and Messages.



## STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT OF THE ORGANISATION

The Board of Directors, meets at least five times a year and is responsible for the strategic direction of Tearfund Ireland – setting targets, signing off annual plans and budgets and reviewing the outcomes of the statutory audit. The Board carried out a review and renewal of its Board and added two new Directors, Sharon Morrow and Lucy Hill. Directors are appointed by the members at the Annual General Meeting and are selected based on criteria established in the Board's Terms of Reference. The Board may also appoint a director to serve until the next Annual General Meeting, at which time he or she would cease to hold office but would be eligible for election. There are currently eight serving directors. A Code of Corporate Governance (based on Dóchas code) guides the Board in its role, and the functioning of the Board is monitored against this. The Board delegates the operational management of the company to the Chief Executive Officer.

The Board undertook a comprehensive assessment of its Governance using the Dóchas Code of Governance Assessment Tool. It intends on establishing a Governance sub-committee responsible to the Board to support and progress various aspects of good governance.

The Development Advisory Committee (DC), a sub-committee of the Board, ensured that Tearfund Ireland utilized and allocated its financial resources effectively and is following internationally recognized best practice in relief and development. The DC has a role to play in supporting Tearfund Ireland in strengthening its programmatic approach and achieving greater impact while accessing increased resources in the future.

The Audit and Risk Committee (ARC), a sub-committee of the Board, led by the Treasurer ensured financial accountability and overseas effective management of

funds. It continued to strengthen internal controls and procedures, by identifying risks and reporting to the Board.

During the year the Board established two new sub-committees, a Fundraising Committee (FC) and an Advisory Council (AC). The FC focuses on leading and supporting fundraising efforts particularly through corporates and businesses. The AC is made up of key stakeholders including church and ministry leaders in Ireland with the voice of the Global South also represented through our partner in Ethiopia.

The sub-committees of the Board must have at least two Directors in its membership. The Board approves funding made available for grants and delegates authority to the DC for its decision on which projects are supported. The DC reports its decisions and actions to the Board in writing.

## FUTURE PLANS

The Board with the support of its Chief Executive Officer and staff team will continue to implement its Strategic Plan, 2015-2020.

- As part of the learning taken from the process of applying to Irish Aid for 'Programme Partner' funding in its development work, a key focus of the year ahead will be on taking the learning and applying it in relevant areas of its overseas Programmes.
- Associated with the above the Board is engaging in a revision of its policies, procedures and systems to strengthen its opportunities in the future and ensure continued high standards of good governance and quality of impact.
- Fundraising in Ireland post-recession is a challenge and the Board and Executive will consider strategies to diversify and increase its resources.
- A mid-term review of progress of its Strategy 2015-20 will be planned and carried out.
- Establish a Theological Advisory Group to advise on its Christian motivation, theology and principles that underpin and guide the work of Tearfund Ireland.
- Secure continued and increased support to our work and impact through maintaining and increasing our Irish Government-funded Civic Society Fund (CSF) Project, Development Education and Humanitarian/emergency responses.

## DIRECTORS & OTHER INFORMATION

Directors	Paraic O'Toole Susan Heaney Richard Phillips Dr David Weakliam (Chair of the Board) Richard Barkley (Treasurer and Secretary) Dr Oghenovo Osa Oghuvbu Sharon Morrow Lucy Hill
Development Advisory Committee	Richard Phillips (Chair)
Audit and Risk Committee	Dr David Weakliam Helen Lane Dr Michael O'Toole
Chief Executive Officer	Richard Barkley Paraic O'Toole Jody Johannie
Secretary	Sharan Kelly
Company number	Richard Barkley
Registered office	323619
Auditors	Tearfund Ireland 2nd Floor Ulysses House 22-24 Foley Street Dublin 1
Bankers	Lewis & Co Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors 8 Priory Hall Stillorgan Dublin
	Allied Irish Banks 37 Upper O'Connell Street Dublin 1

The Company is limited by Guarantee and does not have a share capital; the liability of each member in the event of the Company being wound up is €10. The Company is exempt from including the word "Limited" in its name by virtue of Section 971 of the Companies Act 2014.

The Company has been granted charitable status by the Revenue Commissioners under reference CHY 8600.



Tearfund Ireland  
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Tel: 01 878 3200